

wherein said positional information of the first object includes information on rotation of the first object;

said positional information of the second object includes information on rotation of the second object, and

wherein said second driving system shifts the second movable member based on the measured positional information of the first and second objects.

92~~141~~ (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 97, further comprising:

providing a first measuring device which detects positional information of the first object; and

providing a second measuring device which detects positional information of the second object; and

wherein the second driving system moves the second movable member based on the positional information detected by the first and second measuring devices.

93~~142~~ (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 141, wherein

said first measuring device includes a first interferometer system, and said second measuring device includes a second interferometer system.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 13-39, 41-43, 45, 47-55, 68-70, 72-74, 76, 80-84, 96-99, 101-103, 105, 109-115, 128-142 and 189 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 9, 13, 15, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37, 43, 49-51, 68, 80, 81, 96, 97, 103, 109-111, 130, 131, 135, 137, 138, 141 and 142 are amended, and claims 10-12, 48, 79, 108, 143-149, 156-163, 168-171 and 179-188 are canceled.

#### **I. Description of Claim Amendments**

The amendments to claims 9, 13, 15, 29, 30 and 33 are readily apparent from reviewing those claims since they are original patent claims. Please note that the features of

claims 10-12 have been incorporated into claim 9. Step (d) of claim 36 has been amended by adding the words "using a fine moving mechanism" thereto. The features of claim 48 have been incorporated into claim 37. Claims 49-51 have been amended to depend from claim 37, rather than from claim 48, which has been canceled. The features of claim 79 have been incorporated into independent claim 68. Claims 80 and 81 have been amended to depend from claim 68, rather than from claim 79, which has been canceled. The features of claim 108 have been incorporated into claim 97. Claims 109-111 have been amended to depend from claim 97, rather than from claim 108, which has been canceled. Claims 43 and 103 have been amended to add the "wherein" clause thereto. The "wherein" clause of claim 130 has been replaced. The final "wherein" clause has been added to claims 137, 138 and 141. In addition, "interferometer system" has been changed to --measuring device-- for both occurrences thereof in claim 141. Claims 131 and 142 have been rewritten entirely. A comma has been inserted after "system" in claim 135.

## **II. Information Disclosure Statement**

The Examiner is requested to consider the three references submitted with the attached Information Disclosure Statement.

## **III. Supplemental Reissue Declaration**

A Supplemental Reissue Declaration, addressing the amendments made by this Amendment, will be filed shortly.

## **IV. All Pending Claims are Patentable**

Many of the rejections have been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims. Only the rejections of remaining claims will be addressed below. In addition, Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of many claims.

Claim 96 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicant submits that the amendment to claim 96 overcomes this rejection.

Claims 15, 21 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP-A-63-128713.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding independent claim 15, JP-A-63-128713 does not disclose or suggest "a mask driving unit for moving the first mask stage and a plate driving unit for moving said plate stage" used for synchronously driving the first mask stage and the plate stage. The mask and plate of this reference are moved as a unit by driving the scanning frame 26. See, for example, pages 6-7 of the translation of this reference. Accordingly, claim 15 and claim 21, which depends from claim 15, are patentable over this reference.

With respect to independent claim 34, JP-A-63-128713 does not disclose or suggest the claimed "second driving means for driving said plate stage and said mask stage to maintain a translational relation of the mask and plate in the Y direction and for driving said second mask stage to maintain a relative rotational relation of the mask and the plate, during the scanning exposure" (emphasis added). Accordingly, independent claim 34 is patentable over this reference.

Claims 9-11, 29-31 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP-A-63-128713 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,822,975 to Torigoe. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, the features of objected-to claim 12 (as well as the features of intervening claims 10 and 11) have been incorporated into claim 9. Accordingly, claim 9 is patentable.

With respect to independent claim 29, this combination of references does not disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, the claimed "first interferometer system to measure positional information of the mask", "a second interferometer system to measure positional information of the plate" and "said finely movable stage has a reflection surface, and said first

interferometer system measures the positional information of the mask by applying a measuring beam to the reflection surface."

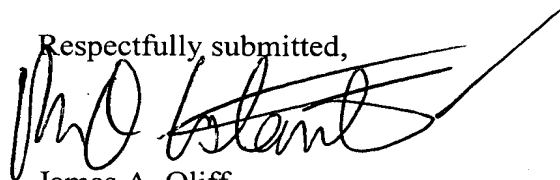
With respect to independent claims 30 and 33, the combination of references does not disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, "detecting a deviation value between an ideal positional relation and an actual positional relation of the mask and the plate at a term of the scanning exposure by using a first measuring system to measure positional information of the mask and a second measuring system to measure positional information of the plate" and "correcting a position of the mask determined by said scanning mechanism so as to decrease said detected deviation value by using a fine moving mechanism provided on said scanning mechanism at the term of the scanning exposure."

**V. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time  
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: September 28, 2001

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